

slacken his effort, and soon, like the man in the strong current, he is drifting down to untold dangers.

There is something very congregational-like in "preaching by turns." It is a brotherly way too, if one preacher does not get larger congregations than the others.

An editor of a paper is an unfortunate person: he usually has no one to stuff his bad manuscript into the waste basket.

#### Miami Valley Items.

As announced last week our meetings at Little York continued on, and although we have been disappointed in getting some one here to help us, we are doing the best we can.

It seems impossible for me to run a protracted meeting here without being interrupted. While at the Miamisburg, we had to leave our meeting twice—once to preach the funeral of Bro. Dunkle, of Covington, and once to fill my regular Saturday evening and Sunday appointments.

Here again at Little York, we were called away twice or three times for funerals, which might have been to the detriment of the meeting. Fortunately however at the right moment, someone came in to the rescue.

On last Saturday we received news of the death of little Bertha Reynolds of the Bear Creek congregation. At the same time her brother Albert was lying very low with little or no hopes for his recovery. The funeral was to be preached on Easter morning at the Brethren church.

But on Saturday afternoon, Albert died also, then the funeral was postponed until Monday when both would be buried together.

So on Monday morning we proceeded to the home of mourning. In this double sorrow it would be difficult for us to picture the desolation of the heart under such a trial. Let us tenderly draw down the veil. This anguish is too sacred for the gaze of the disinterested. God alone can give the necessary consolation, and it is into his hands we commend the broken hearted friends.

The funeral was largely attended. It is only once in a great while that a double funeral is seen. The young people were so well known and generally beloved, that the family had more of the sympathy of the people than we generally find on such occasions.

Albert C. Reynolds was born January 8, 1872; and died March 31, 1888. Age, sixteen years, two months and twenty-three days.

Bertha B. Reynolds was born June 17, 1876; and died March 29th, 1888. Age, eleven years, nine months and twelve days.

The young girl sang "The Great Physician" just before she left this earth. The young brother was unconscious when the sister died. But before passing away, he awoke to consciousness. Heard of his sister's death with calmness. He said now his sister was gone to heaven, he would soon be there too. He sang Nos. 282 and 357 of the Gospel Hymns, wished everybody farewell, and his spirit calmly took its flight to the clear, blue vault of heaven.

On Saturday afternoon grandmother Coler passed away. She is the mother of brother O. A. Coler of Farmersville, and the grandmother of my wife. She died at the ripe old age of 89 years.

She was buried at the Twin

Valley German Baptist church on Tuesday morning. This funeral too was largely attended.

On Sunday evening the Little York Sunday school commemorated Easter by very instructive and appropriate services.

It would be impossible for me to do justice to those who took such a noble part in the exercises. Too much praise cannot be given Bro. V. E. Wampler for his energy, sacrifice and liberality in making them a success. The general verdict was that it was a surprise from first to last.

On Easter morning I preached my one thousandth sermon. I was elected to the ministry in the fall of 1880 in the old church; but until 1882 I did very little preaching. Sometimes I went for four and five months without having an opportunity. Indeed we may say that it was 1882 when I began to preach.

On Easter morning Bro. V. E. Wampler preached his maiden sermon. Bro. Vern will make a useful man in the ministry. He has the zeal and ability, and other qualifications of a good preacher, all he lacks is the experience and confidence which practice will bring.

Bro. C. E. Deffenbaugh was with us for a few days. He too preached his maiden sermon at Fairview. He rendered us much valuable aid, especially during the Easter services.

Like every body else, we are learning something every day. During these protracted meetings we have learned the value of horse flesh.

Horse flesh is not quite as valuable as time and human brains. We have had to go back and forth, a distance of 16 miles, every evening. To save time, we have left starting until the last moment. Now when we have to be sparing of horse flesh it makes the burden a great deal heavier.

We are expected to get up good sermons, and attend to all our duties. Then we think that being transported from place to place should not add to our anxieties. When we cannot afford to have a good horse and fair traveler, then we have not only to spend more time on the road, but be careful lest we injure our animal. Which only adds to our anxiety and cripples our usefulness to a certain extent.

It takes brains, energy, and anxiety to get up sermons, in fact all we can muster, therefore we have none to spare on other matters.

The extra anxiety of saving to make two ends meet, is not always taken into consideration, when people criticize one's sermons.

Some persons think that preachers are not very good managers because they do not get wealthy. These good people forget that the preachers often have to manage to get along on very poor salaries, and at other times they have very little to manage.

Oh yes! we thought of getting up something last week for the inside of this paper. But thought better of it. The facts are these:—

A minister of the Disciple church was holding a meeting in the neighborhood of North Star. Bro. Pearson went to hear him. This preacher said that True Immersionists were no better than infidels. That he would not extend the hand of fellowship

to them. And that he would debate these matters with any man on God's green earth.

On one occasion Bro. Pearson rose up to answer him while making some remarks about us and our doctrine, but he was not allowed to say much.

Eventually Bro. Pearson asked me if I would defend our cause. Without any hesitation I consented. The arrangements were being made.

We had even formulated our propositions. The first was: "That single immersion was the only form of Christian baptism warranted by the word of God, and ecclesiastical history." He affirmed, I denied. The second was: "That Feetwashing as commanded by our Lord in John 13, was an ordinance of the church." I affirmed, he denied.

However he wanted to place someone in his place, but we objected on the ground that as he had insulted us, and made such loud boasts, we wanted him and no one else to make his threats good. His letters showed him to be an empty, illiterate braggart, and his own church has become disgusted with him, and so the whole thing fell through.

On April the 15th, we will organize a Sunday School in the new church at Miamisburg.

By the way what is the name of that Dunkard Book that our editor refers to in last issue, when he says Mount Morris contains the only man in the Dunkard church who has written a book that has received a circulation outside of our church. Is not that what he means?

Our Little York meetings will close this Friday evening. So far but one addition, but we expect some more this evening.

On the 8th, I will be at Pleasant Hill. We will likely make arrangements to commence a meeting about the 16th.

Today, Bro. Tombaugh is expected here to make out the program of the next Sunday School convention.

If possible we will open up a class of young men here this summer for the study of Theology.

EDWARD MASON.

#### Sidney, Ind.

April 3rd.—The little family of Brethren at Sidney are still engaged to work in the kingdom of the Lord. On Friday last, March 30th, Bro. J. M. Rittgers arrived here with his family from South Bend. He purchased 32 acres of land and intends to try his hand at farming as well as preaching. We now have two ordained preachers here in this arm of the church, namely: J. H. Palmer and J. M. Richards, and this day we intend to ordain still another one, of whom I have something more to say in this communication. Some may think that this is more than our share of ministers, and at first sight this would seem true. But let it be understood that we do not intend to use these ministers for our own benefit only, but to fulfill the commission, "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature." We are ready for work, and will try and supply all the demands as fast as it is possible to do so. Send on your requests for laborers, and when convenient or possible, your demands will be heeded.

Last Sunday a number went to North Manchester where the

Brethren of that place were awaiting us and three were baptized. The waters were chilly, but sin was still more chilly. One of the number was a minister of a branch of the Methodist denomination. He lives at Monroeville on the P. Ft. W. & C. R. R., east of Ft. Wayne and came here for the express purpose of being baptized. He desired to be put immediately to the work. This is the brother that is to be ordained today. His name is S. P. Stevens. He was raised a Roman Catholic, and I believe he was educated for a priest. By profession he was a physician. Some four years ago he married a Christian lady, who had much to do with his conversion. After this he became a minister, as above stated. But as this branch of Methodists did not give him the right to preach and practice the ordinances in God's house as he found them in God's word, he changed his church relations, and was baptized by Bro. Rittgers at the time and place herein stated. There was something peculiar about this case. Rev. Stevens was sent here by his people to conduct a meeting at Sidney, and he continued the meeting for some time during which time in conversation with some of the brethren he confessed that he could not practice the ordinances as he read them. He did not know that such a people as the Brethren existed, but knew the G. B. brethren, but did not like their exclusiveness. Bro. Stevens thinks that Providence had something to do in bringing him to Sidney. The writer heard him preach several times for the church of his former choice, and knows him to be full of the revival spirit.

4 o'clock, p. m. The ordination has just taken place, and Bro. Stevens is now an ordained minister of the Brethren. We trust and believe he is the right man in the right place. The EVANGELIST may hear from him often.

DANIEL MILLER.

#### Virginia Notes.

We hear that Bro. I. D. Bowman, of Md., is doing a good work for the salvation of souls. In a letter from him a few days ago, he stated that he has been busy nearly every night for fifteen weeks; that he has eight or ten to baptize today, and that they will close the meeting with about twenty additions. Such a work is certainly a good one. We trust that other parts of the country may be also stirred to the centre and pricked to the heart.

In a card today from Bro. E. B. Shaver, we notice that he too has lost none of his zeal for the Master, but as the years pass by, he seems to work harder, and of course has better success in bringing souls to Christ. He says in his card, dated Roaring Springs, Pa., March 27th: "We are in the midst of a grand revival, twenty-four have confessed Christ." Such a success, was not, I believe, expected by any one. I certainly would like to have been there to have shared the joys of the brethren, for certainly there was rejoicing in Israel. Very few ministers have sacrificed more than Bro. Shaver in his devotion for the Master.

The Executive Committee from Md., and Va., have decided to call a convention of the two

states for May the 19th, to continue several days. Bro. Bowman will officially announce the meeting. Now in the interest of the cause, we espouse, and in the interest of the Brethren church, let there be a full representation of the brethren. Let every body be interested in the meeting, and let every body determine to do something for the cause, whether it be the inauguration of a plan for symmetrical work or the power behind the throne to push the plan into practical operation. We want or would like to have Va., and Md., each provided with an evangelist to go in every possible place and preach the Gospel freely.

G. A. COPP.

#### OUR CHURCH.

Bro. J. A. Miller has returned from his canvass. He reports some success.

Good reports come from Bro. Josiah Keim and Kimmel in their canvass for the College.

Bro. W. C. Perry expects to close his work at the North Liberty church next Lord's day.

Bro. B. H. Flory, who is now attending school will preach at the College the coming Lord's day.

We are pleased to learn from Bro. Replogle's letter that the work is prospering in Johnstown.

Bro. J. M. Rittger's address will hereafter be Sidney, Ind., instead of Sweet Home, Ind., as heretofore.

Bro. Miller reports the conversion of a Methodist minister in his letter this week. We hope much good may result from it.

The communication from Bro. Shaver is very encouraging. There seems to be quite an awakening in Pennsylvania this season.

Bro. J. A. Miller expects to preach at the Bethel church, Perry County, Ohio, next Lord's day. After school is out he intends to serve that church.

Bro. Chancey Chase, of Brentwood, Cal., writes that "we are trying to live so that when the messenger of death comes, we shall meet with a welcome."

Sister Alice Statler shows her appreciation of the EVANGELIST by saying a good word for it and sending in a few selections in lieu of written articles, which she feels she cannot write.

We would say to sister Royer that we are doing all that we can to spread our doctrine. We lack the means. There are excellent laborers idle because no one can keep them and let them devote their time to preaching.

Every one should now pay their College subscriptions. The money will soon be needed. It will be a great encouragement to the Trustees if every one pays his subscription at once. Send it to this office, or to H. K. Myers.

Dear Brethren I wish to say if there is any church within my reach who desires a minister, I am free for correspondence, etc. Can give best of references. Address, S. P. STEVENS.

Monroeville, Ind.

Bro. E. L. Yoder is working up the interests of the College in the West. He has been a faithful worker for the College, and successful too. We bespeak for him liberal assistance wherever he may call upon the brethren.

Bro. L. W. Ditch and family moved to South Bend, from Dunlap, Ind., last week and become the pastor of the church there. Many commendable words are spoken to his credit by brethren who have had association with him. We are pleased to know that he is making full proof of his ministry. It is now only a little longer than one year since he entered the work.